

IS COMING HOME IN HIS OLD AGE

Virginia Negro Who Has Made
Fortune in West to Return
to Native State.

HAS PASSED CENTURY MARK

A Native of Fluvanna County,
and Claims to Be 114
Years Old.

(Special Correspondence to The Times-Dispatch.)

OMAHA, NEB., October 7.—John Flannigan, the oldest man in the West, if not in the entire country, for seventy-two years a slave in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee, and for the last forty years a resident of Omaha, has been restored to his children after an absence of sixty-four years, and in a few days will leave here for Virginia to spend the last years of his life with those from whom he parted when his master sold him to a negro buyer in 1841. John's grandson, E. T. Scott, of Hunter's Lodge, Va., is now in Omaha to accompany the old man back to Fluvanna county, Va., where he will make his home with his daughter, Emily Scott, whom he has not seen for sixty-four years. The old negro has just filed deeds for \$18,000 worth of Omaha property to his daughter and \$1,000 worth of property to the grandson, who came here after him. Additionally, old John is the owner of probably \$100,000 of real estate in Omaha, although he can neither read nor write.

John was born in 1791 and today is 114 years old. Reared as a "house" negro on the plantation of James Flannigan, Fluvanna county, Va., on the death of his master, John, (says) fifty years old, he was sold to a Tennessee buyer of negroes and taken away from his wife and children. He never heard a single word from any of them until a short time ago, when, through newspaper clippings which one of his children in Virginia saw, letters were passed between them, and now, sixty-four years afterwards, he is going back to where he was reared and will spend the balance of his life there.

NOW HAS A FORTUNE.

But John is not a pauper by any means. He has been "laving" (as he says) with ex-Governor Boyd for twenty years for a valuable lot of property worth \$125,000 and recent decisions of the Supreme Court have left the property in the hands of the old negro. The lands consisted of about 200 building lots, around which the city has grown since John took up his abode on the place forty years ago. It was practically worthless at that time, but with street railways on two sides

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teeth and purifies the breath.
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and the Missouri Pacific Railroad through the center, the property is now valuable. It is a portion of this land which he has just decided to his daughter and grandson.

John has had a remarkable career and has known many of the nation's great men. Thomas Jefferson, he says, was a frequent visitor at his master's house in Virginia, and when a little child, he remembered seeing Washington. This memory was kept alive by his mother, who impressed it upon his mind during childhood, that he had seen Washington ride by. During the first year of the war he was owned by John Ball, of Tennessee, who was the candidate of the Constitutional Union party for President against Lincoln. When the battle of Fort Donelson was fought, John put shoes on General U. S. Grant's horses, and wanted to enlist in the Union army to care for Grant's horses, but was told he was too old to enlist, "and I wasn't but seventy years old, either," says John.

Immediately after Donelson, John ran away from his master and made his way to St. Louis by steamboat and later drifted to Omaha in the same manner.

Was Small City Then.

John says he made a trip to Washington with his master, Jim Flannigan, when Washington didn't look at all like a city, but was a small place. However, he says great buildings were then being built of stone and activity was on every hand. And he remembers distinctly when the "Red Coats" burned Washington during the war of 1812.

But the old man's most vivid recollection is the time the stars "fell" in 1833, and his description of the fright and ludicrous situations and incidents of that occasion is well worth hearing.

Although claiming to be one hundred and fourteen years old, John is yet more than six feet tall and as erect as an Indian. He says he was a valuable negro when he was young, and that when John Birchard purchased him from Bryce Stewart, of Clarksville, Tenn., he paid \$3,000 for him. And he was sixty years old then, too.

Some years after coming to Omaha, old John married again, but has no children nor relations of any kind living in Nebraska now. He has, for many years, yearned for "Old Virginia," and is telling with childish delight, of what he will do when he gets back "home."

NEED FOR LABOR IN THE SOUTH

The Manufacturers' Record Says
the Demand Is Wide-
spread.

ARE A PLENTY OF LOAFERS

But What Is Needed Are Work-
ers in Every Line of
Endeavor.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BALTIMORE, October 7.—Commenting upon statements made at recent points in the South illustrating the widespread and urgent demand there for workers ranging from skilled mechanics to farm labor and household servants, the Manufacturers' Record says this week: "A glance at the facts reveals the situation which must be corrected if the South is to realize its immense potentialities. For instance, at Norfolk, as at many another points, there is activity in building operations, but they are hampered by the lack of skilled and unskilled workmen in all the trades, the available labor being able to find only fifty laborers to do the work of one hundred. In the Birmingham district 3,000 men could be used immediately, but the local supply is only 1,000. A cannery at Charleston needing 400 shuckers can obtain but 175. Negro farm hands in Mississippi are paid in some cases double the wages of five or six years ago, but a sufficient number cannot be had at any price. Cotton mills and cotton compresses are also short of hands, contractors with rush jobs cannot carry out their contracts, and the completion of a large warehouse here will be delayed unless workmen from New York or elsewhere may be promptly brought in. It is noted at Savannah that a factory has been calling for 500 girls for a long time. Lumber establishments in east Carolina are looking for the bulk of the hands and are bringing in from the north and west. In the case of the iron and steel industry, the demand for labor is so great that arrangements have been made to settle 10,000 Italians and Mexicans upon the sugar plantations of Louisiana. From Virginia to Texas the cry for competent household service extends.

ARE MANY LOAFERS.

"The demand for labor is not entirely to an actual shortage in the number of persons able to work. In many cities hundreds of able-bodied men are unemployed about the streets content to be supported by the earnings and the petty pilferings of their families. Many of the males who work at all disappear from the labor force as soon as they have earned enough to live on for a week and many of the females in household service are equally unreliable. For such the vagrancy laws must be strictly and persistently enforced. Even with that, though, there would still be room for at least half a million men and women to do the immediate work of the South, to say nothing of that which is to be done hereafter.

"The census of 1900 shows that the cotton mills consumed 2,172,992 bales of cotton, though their spindle capacity was sufficient to consume 400,000 or 500,000 more. Failure to make the most of their investment in machinery was based upon inability to obtain a full quota of operatives. Some iron furnaces are falling behind, even to the extent of 2,500 or 3,000 tons a month, because there is no urgent market, but because they cannot find enough common daily laborers, even to be made promptly thousands of tons on their yards, already promised for delivery. Railroad contractors are rivaling one another in their search for men who will pick and shovel. Cotton fields are white to the harvest, but the laborers are few. It will not do merely to go out into the highways and hedges of the South, the byways of the lower and compel them to come in, whether or not they be competent. There is a limit to the shifting of labor from one industry to another, consequently upon the economic revolution which has been under way for years in the South, that section has the material in vast quantities, which must be developed for the good of its own people and of the people of the whole country. It has not enough workers of its own for the full development of that material. It must look outside itself for additional workers."

DEPOSITS INCREASE.

Reflecting the industrial and agricultural activity of the South are the figures published in this week's Manufacturers' Record showing that since June 30, 1903, deposits in national banks in the Southern States have increased from \$86,932,333 to \$448,228,535, or by \$361,296,202, equal to 71.3 per cent. The increases by States have been: Alabama, \$3,766,255; Arkansas, \$2,735,684; District of Columbia, \$1,402,190; Florida, \$4,401,705; Georgia, \$1,849,947; Kentucky, \$5,730,559; Louisiana, \$2,217,094; Maryland, \$1,177,424; Mississippi, \$333,835; North Carolina, \$2,335,618; South Carolina, \$2,565,583; Tennessee, \$5,461,459; Texas, \$1,123,993; Virginia, \$1,581,234; West Virginia, \$1,568,586.

The largest percentage of gain in these States is shown by Florida, 64, though Arkansas very nearly equalled this. The smallest percentage of increase, 6.5, was in the District of Columbia.

During the past three months Southern cotton mills, either new or enlarging, have announced plans involving \$2,020 new spindles and 925 new looms; a total increase since the first of January of 304,000 spindles and 6,286 looms. Announcements during the past three months represent an investment of about \$1,000,000. Included in the developments of the past summer have been announcements of a number of new companies, and of additions to old mills, in which the details as to the number of spindles and looms have not been given. Had these details been available, the third quarter of the year would have made a much better showing. Reports of this character comprised a \$200,000 mill at Columbia, S. C., for manufacturing oil-mill press cloth from camel's hair; and another, three new cotton mills, with an aggregate capital of \$100,000; a \$200,000 cotton rope company at Spartanburg, S. C.; and additions to the chain of cotton mills operated at Spray, N. C.

NELSON NOTES.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
NORWOOD, NELSON COUNTY, VA., October 7.—The public schools all began in the county on Monday with a good attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Conner, of Portsmouth, stopped over here from Saturday until today when they left on a lengthy trip to see Mr. Conner's sister, of Oregon and his brother, of California. Miss Miner Nelson, of Fredericks Hall, returned to her home on Tuesday after spending three weeks with the Misses Burgess here.

Miss Anna B. Bolton returned from Covington today.

Mrs. Frank Bolton will return to her home in Spragueville this week. She will be accompanied home by her sister, Miss Annie Robertson, and niece, Miss Olive Aaga.

Miss Rena Kidd returned from Afton and Oak Ridge on Sunday.
Mrs. William Ligon and Mrs. O. Lee Saunders and little Margaret Gaines spent Monday here.
Miss Grace Bolton, of Caslake, spent this week with Miss Mabel Bolton here.

Mrs. Beverly Carter, of Richmond, passed here on last week en route to Detroit, Mich.
Mr. and Mrs. Owens, of Newport News, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Porter.

Dr. G. C. Callaway was visiting Richmond on last week.

Social Problems.

Lumber Yard Leno—I hadn't seen Wally Willie around lately.
Seyon Leona Saunders—No, he's disguised himself as a college professor and livin' as one of 'em. He's goin' to write a magazine article on delirious habits.—Puck.

The gentle reader would not always realize so if the author were within reach.—Puck.

Here's a Budget of Bargains for Tuesday,

Store Will Be Closed on Monday.

There's really some lively selling to be done under this roof all during the coming four or five days—Horse Show week! We know that Mr. Horse will come first in the minds of all, but after that, take up the next item of importance—the Thalheimer Store. Drop in, look 'round, acquaint yourself with one of the busiest spots in Richmond. Now we'll look for you—coming?

Horse Show Week Among Fashion's New Dress Stuffs.

You may revel this week among the choicest display of Dress Stuffs you ever saw—and really moderately priced. Everything from the usual to the extreme creations are here.

42-inch Covert Cloth, for Tailored Suits and Coats, yard, \$1.00 and \$1.50

42-inch Rainproof Cravenette, in all the new shades of tan, mode, green, blue and gray, for suits, separate skirts, coats and raincoats, \$1.00 and \$1.25

44-inch Satin Finish Henrietta, as pretty as silk, \$1.00 and \$1.00

42-inch Brunella Cloth, a beautiful finish, medium weight, twilled fabric, for street or dress use, \$1.00 and \$1.00

38 and 42-inch Roman and Scotch Plaids, for shirt waists and school wear, 50c, 75c and \$1.00

A beautiful line of Plain and Fancy Mohairs, in all the autumn colorings for early fall wear, 35c, 50c and \$1.00

62-inch Broadcloth, in every color and shade worn, absolutely all-wool and as pretty a finish and texture as most \$1.50 quality; sale price \$1.00

Everything in White and Cream Wool Stuffs known to the trade, ranging from 25c per yard to \$2.00

A Fall Display of Bewitching Silks.

Positively enchanting and liberally shown—these new Fall Silks were never so worthy as now; new as the morning's dew!

Silk Eclat—Not all silk, but surpasses in beauty many all-silk fabrics. A large showing has just gotten here and they're now ready, 39c and 39c

Plaid Silks—An opportunity indeed. Your new waist will come cheap now.

Silks in all the bright and sombre plaids and silks worth a dollar; sale price 75c

Black Taffeta and Beau de Solo Silks—Notice the high lustre finish, yard 49c to \$2.00

Colored Taffetas—plain or changeable; an agreeable surprise to many; all the wanted fall colors and combinations; a very select quality, yard 58c

The Late Ideas in Women's Suits.

One of the most completely stocked sections of its kind in the entire South. We've enjoyed an envious reputation all along for worthy garments.

Lyonsville Cheviot Suits, 45-inch fitted coats, lined with satin, kilts, skirts, strictly man tailored, special at \$15.00

Elegant Broadcloth Suits, 24-inch fitted coats, collarless, stitched lapped seams, satin lined, full plaid skirts, unmatchable value at \$20.00

Nobby Invisible Plaid Suits, all the new grays, fitted coats, velvet collar, plaid skirts, one of the most seasonable novelties at \$25.00

Swagger Box Coat Suits, 27 inches long, lined throughout with satin, the latest mannish effect, high kilts skirt, made of hard finished worsteds \$30.00

Our High-class Novelty Suits comprise plain and plaid Coat Suits, Eton Suits, Blouse Suits, both in plain cloths and mixtures; this display will appeal to the most fashionably dressed woman; prices \$35.00 and \$50.00

Good Hosiery Reasonably Priced.

Good Hosiery for boys—or girls. Finest sorts for women, all at prices that appeal to you.

Children's "Buster Brown" Hosiery, heavy or fine ribbed, pair 25c

Children's "Sandow" and "Samson" Heavy Ribbed Bicycle Hosiery, pair 25c

Ladies' Plain Black, Light or Heavy Weight Hose, pair 25c

Extra quality Black Ribbed Lisle Hose for women, pair 25c

Ladies' Black Fleece Lined Hosiery, pair 25c

Plain Black Hosiery for women, white foot and sole, pair 12½c

The Fall Wrapper and Waist Materials.

It's really wonderful how inexpensive good materials come here. Look for these:

36-inch Flannelettes, in beautiful Persian patterns, cheap at 15 2-8c; yard; this week's price 15c

36-inch Flannelettes, in all the most popular effects and patterns, were 15c yd., now going at 12½c

A beautiful line of Ducks, in black and blues, with dots, stripes and figures; price cut this week from 15c yard to 10c and 12½c

27-inch Flannelettes, in beautiful shades of blue, gray, green; also many Persian patterns, were 10c and 12½c yard; this week they're 8½c and 10c

Agents McCall's Bazar Patterns.



Mail Orders Carefully Filled.

ANCIENT SETTLEMENT IN SPOTSYLVANIA

Partlow Was An Important Place
Many Years
Ago.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PARTLOW, SPOTSYLVANIA CO., VA., October 7.—This place has been known by that name for many years. Captain Launcelot Partlow was its owner. He kept tavern here, as it was called. He was a large man and owned quite a large farm, which he kept in a nice state of cultivation. He was sheriff of Spotsylvania county for many years before the war, somewhere back in the forties, and lived to be quite an old man, dying only a few years ago, at the advanced age of ninety-six.

He raised quite a large family here of children, and had the pleasure of seeing most of them married and settled in life before his death. Very few people by that name ever lived in this county. This family had many relations in South Carolina and Mississippi, and it is supposed that this family originally came from one of these States. Captain Partlow was one of the escorts of General Lafayette when he last visited Virginia, and I have often heard him speak of it. Some of the old people would sometimes call this place New Market. I do not know why it was so called, unless in ante-bellum days it was a great place for the owners of slaves to meet at and hire them out. At the close of the year here the owners of the iron works in West Virginia would come down a day or two before New Year's day, pay up their hires, and contract for another year. Sometimes a slave would be sold on the block at that time. At that time farmers would sell cattle, horses and hogs, and quite a large number of people from the surrounding country would attend. The big dish with the table would have cooked would make their eyes fly wide open when they got to the table—none of your little side dishes then, but the big dish with its birds, held the big, juicy ham, or the old fat gobbler, who had paid his last visit to the barn yard the night before, roasted to a nice brown by old Aunt Isabelle, long since passed away.

The old mansion is now owned by Mr. Willie Smith, quite an industrious and enterprising farmer, making good crops of corn, wheat and tobacco. Across the road, nearly opposite, lives the Captain's grandson, Willie G. Dillard, the present county treasurer, who has built up a large storehouse and recently made many additions to it. Mr. Dillard has also built a nice dwelling and is constantly adding to its beauty and attraction.

This is quite a healthy place, high and dry; a postoffice, blacksmith shop, and with a number of settlers in close touch, which has been taught for many years by Mrs. Sally Wilson and Miss Rosa Hewlett.

This place is about seven miles from Tyler's, on the Chesapeake and Ohio, and a railroad or trolley line from this place through by Partlow to deep water would add very much to the prosperity of the country.

There are three churches in striking distances. Old historic Waller's Baptist Church, some two miles distant, dating back to the days of John and Absalom Waller, bold champions of the cross, who were not afraid to proclaim the gospel, let the consequences be what they may. Also Rehoboth, a Methodist church, and County Line another Baptist church, both within church distance of the place.

There are many thrifty and enterprising farmers near this place, among whom are L. M. Smith, Dr. J. W. Davis, L. G. Maddox, P. L. Chewning and others.

In days of slavery this place was called Pea Side, because some of the land was considered poor; but now it may be called indeed Pea Fields, because you may see acres of them on every hand one year, the next you may look out for waving crops of wheat, followed by nice crops of clover and timothy.

Truly this is a wonderful change. It plainly shows what the farmers can do when they get a little educated up-to-date on the improved methods of farming;

and now it is no uncommon thing to see many a fat veal on its way to the Richmond market.

In Rockingham.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
WOODSTOCK, VA., October 7.—The Shenandoah Valley Orchard Company, with headquarters at Mt. Jackson, Shenandoah county, has been incorporated, for the purpose of planting a large fruit orchard near that town, with a maximum capital of \$50,000, and has 100 acres of land. Mr. F. H. and J. L. Wisler of Mt. Jackson, and Judge E. D. Newton, of Woodstock, are the incorporators.

The Geary Hotel, of Woodstock, will change hands on October 12, when Mr. C. L. Bowman, of Mt. Jackson, will take charge.

Rev. J. F. W. Kittmeyer, who has been

filling the pulpit of the Lutheran Church at this place for several months, has received and accepted a call from the congregation, to become their permanent pastor, and will begin his services as such immediately.

The towns of Edinburg and Mt. Jackson are considering the feasibility of putting in water systems, both having an abundant supply of free stone water on the western slope of Massanutten, within three miles distance.

A Charmed Life.

Trainer (of college foot-ball team)—So you're sure you could make good on the first eleven, eh? Well, what did you ever do, son, to give you that ballucination?

Freshman—I've been in four auto smashes, and once I took in every show at Coney Island.—Puck.

USERS OF OUR COAL



need no suggestions from us. The fuel is a self-advertiser, once it has chance to get in its best licks. But possibly you have never tried it. In that case good fortune awaits you on the day you order a sample ton or two. If we can't suit you "down to the ground"—yes, below ground, in your cellar—the coal man hasn't happened who can. All we're looking for is a fair trial. How's to-day for the first lap in the race. Oak and Pine Wood, long, sawed and kindling, in any length.

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We have in stock a number of high-grade, fully guaranteed Runabouts, rubber or steel tire, which we are selling at a sacrifice. These vehicles are strictly first class, and can be bought for the price of the ordinary kind.

We are making a specialty of a Medium-Grade Buggy, and offer as a leader a

Top Buggy for \$50.

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